

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

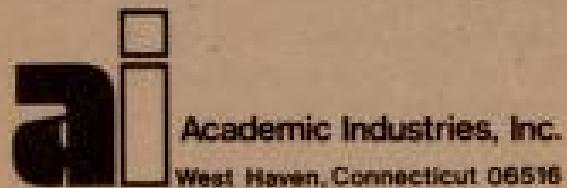
As You Like It



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As You Like It

William Shakespeare



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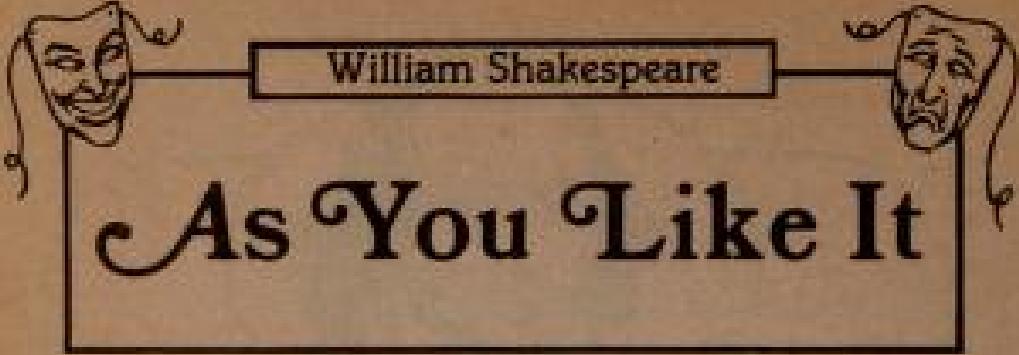


about the author

William Shakespeare was born on April 23, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, England, the third child of John Shakespeare, a well-to-do merchant, and Mary Arden, his wife. Young William probably attended the Stratford grammar school, where he learned English, Greek, and a great deal of Latin.

In 1582 Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. By 1583 the couple had a daughter, Susanna, and two years later the twins, Hamnet and Judith. Somewhere between 1585 and 1592 Shakespeare went to London, where he became first an actor and then a playwright. His acting company, The King's Men, appeared most often in the Globe theatre, a part of which Shakespeare himself owned.

In all, Shakespeare is believed to have written thirty-seven plays, several nondramatic poems, and a number of sonnets. In 1611 when he left the active life of the theatre, he returned to Stratford and became a country gentleman, living in the second-largest house in town. For five years he lived a quiet life. Then, on April 23, 1616, William Shakespeare died and was buried in Trinity Church in Stratford. From his own time to the present, Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest writers of the English-speaking world.



William Shakespeare

As You Like It



As You Like It

Many years ago, three brothers lived in a rich country house. The oldest brother, Oliver, took care of the house and lands and sent the middle brother, Jaques, to school. But he kept his youngest brother, Orlando, from getting what was rightfully his. One day Orlando spoke with the old servant Adam about the unfair way in which his brother Oliver treated him.



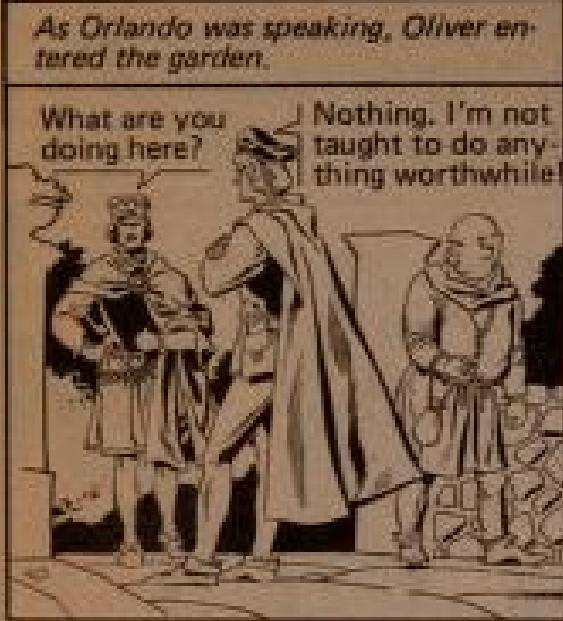
Orlando, a gentle and kind young man, could not understand why Oliver treated him so badly. He began planning to take the money his father had left him so that he could leave home and take care of himself.

POCKET CLASSICS

As Orlando was speaking, Oliver entered the garden.

What are you doing here?

Nothing. I'm not taught to do anything worthwhile!



How dare you say that to me?



At that, Orlando grasped his brother's arms to keep him from striking again.

Do you want to fight with me?

I am a gentleman, the youngest son of Sir Rowland de Boys. I only want to make sure you listen to me!



Our father told you to educate me well. Do so, or give me what is mine by his will.

I will give you part of it. Now let me go, and get out of here!



And you get away too, old man!

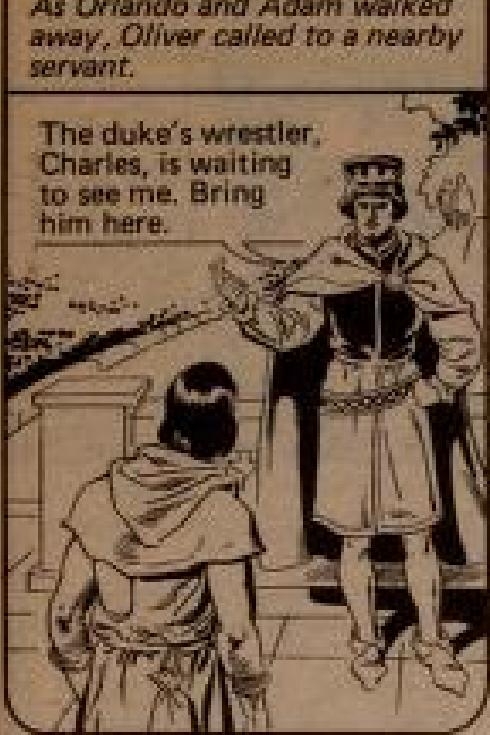
Is that the thanks I get for all my years of service to your family?



As You Like It

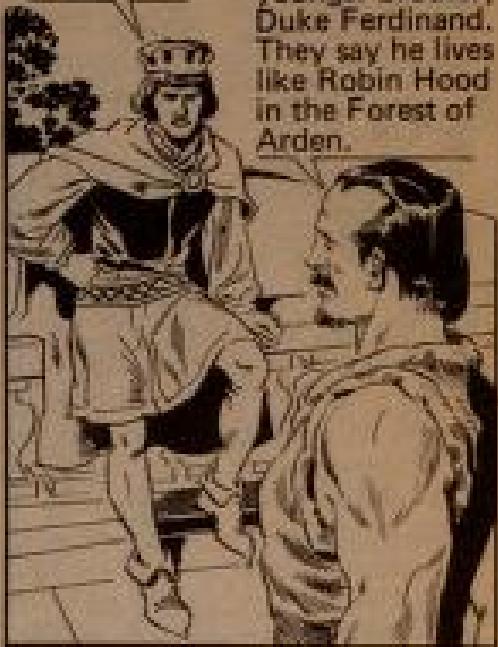
As Orlando and Adam walked away, Oliver called to a nearby servant.

The duke's wrestler, Charles, is waiting to see me. Bring him here.



What is the news at the court?

The old duke has been sent away by his younger brother, Duke Ferdinand. They say he lives like Robin Hood in the Forest of Arden.



Was his daughter Rosalind sent away with him?

Oh, no. She and the new duke's daughter, Celia, are like sisters. He wants to keep them together.



But there is something else on my mind. Your youngest brother, Orlando, wants to wrestle with me tomorrow. I am older and stronger, and I am afraid I might hurt him badly!



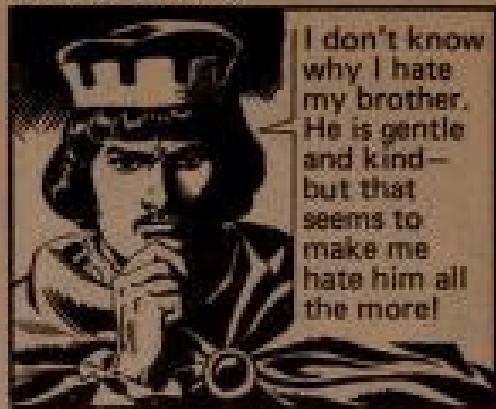
POCKET CLASSICS

Yes, I know. But my younger brother hates me. He would like to kill me and take my fortune.



Then I will take care of him once and for all.

When Charles had left, Oliver sat quietly thinking.



I don't know why I hate my brother. He is gentle and kind—but that seems to make me hate him all the more!

The following day at the court of Duke Frederick, his daughter Celia walked with her cousin Rosalind.

Dear Rosalind, I wish you were not so sad!

It is hard for me to be happy when I think of my poor father sent away like that.



I am my father's only child. Someday I will own everything that he has, and then I will give back to you everything my father has taken.



As You Like It

As they were speaking, one of the duke's servants came up to the young ladies.

Are you staying for the wrestling match? The duke's wrestler has already won against three young men. He will soon take on another.

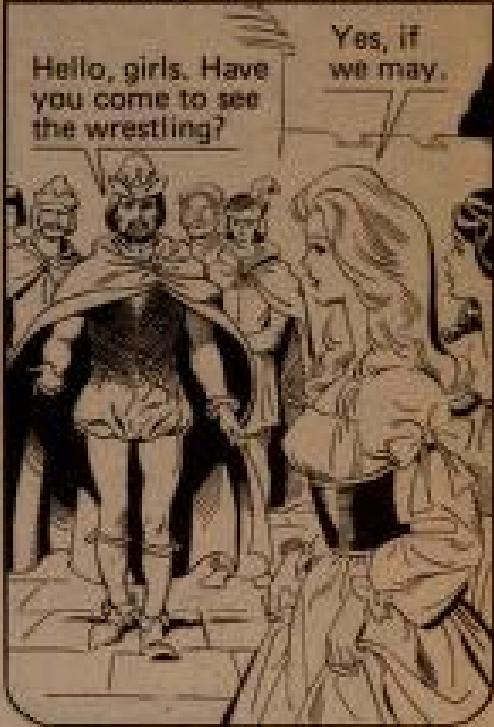


Let us stay, Rosalind.

At that moment, Duke Frederick and several other men drew near.

Hello, girls. Have you come to see the wrestling?

Yes, if we may.



You may be sorry. Charles could kill this next man. Maybe you can get him to give up.



We will try.

POCKET CLASSICS

So Rosalind and Celia spoke to Orlando.

Are you the young man who wants to fight Charles, the wrestler?

Yes, I am. And perhaps I can win against him.



You are too young. He might hurt you badly!

Let us ask the duke to call off this match!



I must fight him. Still, I hope your good wishes will stay with me. I have no-one else who cares.

I wish I could make you stronger! But good luck anyway.



As You Like It



With the good wishes of Rosalind and Celia in his heart, Orlando began his fight with Charles.



To everyone's surprise, Orlando threw Charles so hard that he could not get up again. The match had lasted only a few moments.



*No more, no more!
Stop the fight! The young man has won!*

POCKET CLASSICS

What is your name, lad?



Orlando. I am the youngest son of Sir Rowland de Boys.

Your father was my enemy, but you are a brave young man just the same.



Saying this, Duke Frederick turned and left. But Celia and Rosalind stayed to speak to the young man.

And I am sorry for my father's bad manners!



My own father loved your father dearly. Please take this chain and wear it for me!

Before Orlando could thank them, Celia and Rosalind walked away.

I could not answer the young lady who gave me this chain. I am afraid I have fallen in love with her!



As You Like It

Just then one of the servants walked by. Orlando spoke to him.

Which of those two young ladies is the daughter of Duke Frederick?

The smaller one is his daughter Celia. The other is Rosalind, daughter of the banished duke.



But lately Duke Frederick has grown angry with Rosalind because the people love her. I am sure he will take it out on her somehow.

Thank you for your help.



Meanwhile, Rosalind had also fallen in love with Orlando. Later, when the two girls were alone, Rosalind spoke to Celia about him.

My father loved that young man's father dearly.

It looks to me as if you do too!



POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It

When the duke had gone, Celia spoke to Rosalind.

You will not leave here alone, Rosalind. I am going with you. Together we will find your father in the Forest of Arden!



Quickly, the girls got ready to leave. Rosalind dressed up as a man so that she and Celia could travel more safely.

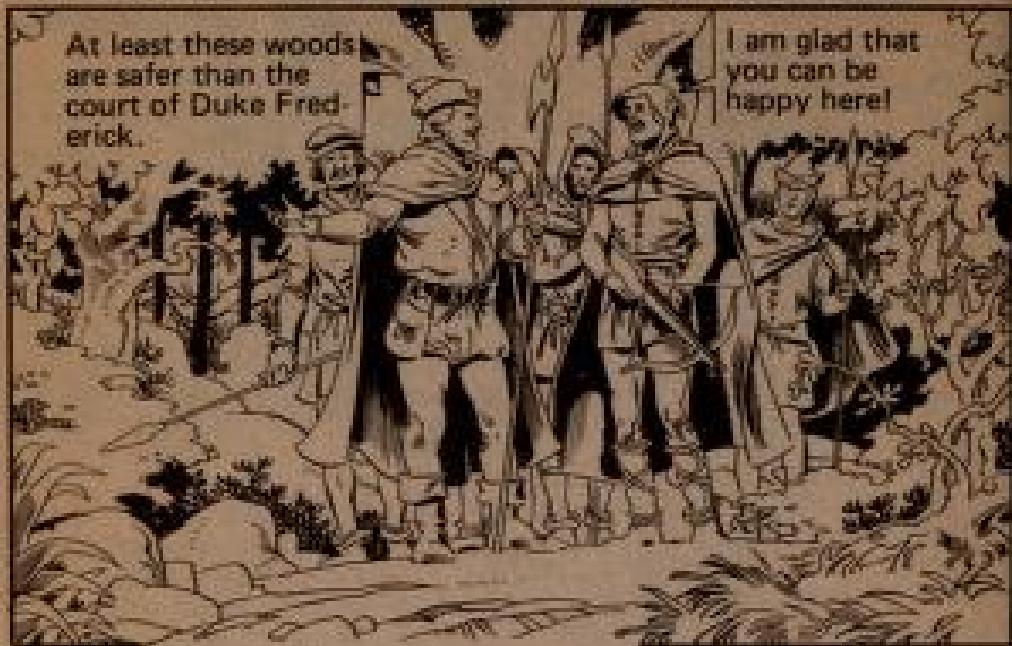


And my name will no longer be Celia, but Aliena. Let us take my father's clown with us. He will come if I ask him.



POCKET CLASSICS

While these things were happening, the older duke, Rosalind's father, was living in the Forest of Arden. Several friends were with him.



As You Like It

Meanwhile, Duke Frederick learned that Celia had left with Rosalind.

Someone in my court must have known about this!



Sir, your clown has gone away too! And one of the court ladies thinks that the young wrestler who fought here may be with them as well!

Send for Oliver, the wrestler's brother. I'll make him tell us where they are!



Orlando, of course, was not with the girls. But as he returned home, the servant Adam came out to meet him.

You must leave here at once, young master! Your brother wants to have you killed!



I have a little money, saved from when I worked for your father. Please take it... and take me with you, too. I don't want to stay here any longer.

Very well, faithful friend. We will go together.



POCKET CLASSICS

By this time, after a long journey, Rosalind, Celia, and Touchstone the clown arrived at the Forest of Arden.

If I were not dressed like a man, I would cry like a woman. But we must be brave, Aliena.



Home seemed better than this place. But travelers must take what they find.

As they stood talking, two shepherds passed by. Touchstone called to them.



Halloo! Shepherds!

Is there a place nearby where we can find food and a place to sleep?

I have nothing, sir, and my master will not help anyone.



But his land, his cottage, and his sheep are for sale.



That sounds like the very thing for us. Please buy everything, and we will repay you.

Then you can be our shepherd, and we will pay you well.

As You Like It

Meanwhile, in another part of the forest some of the duke's men found Jaques.

We have been looking for you all day. Come, it is time to eat.

I have spent all day hiding from the duke. He likes to tease me.



But I think I'll try to get some sleep right now.

Well, I'll go back to the duke. Our meal is ready.



At that moment Orlando and the servant Adam had just reached the forest.

Dear master, I can go no farther. I am too tired and too hungry.

Then wait here and rest while I go forward and see what I can find in this wild place. I will search for food and a place for you to sleep.



POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It



Then we shall help you.
We are more pleased by
gentle manners than
by force!

I am very
sorry, but I am
almost dying
of hunger.



Sit down then.
Welcome to
our table.

Thank you. But I
must first bring back
the tired old man
who has followed
me so faithfully.

Go, then. We will
wait to eat until
you both return.



POCKET CLASSICS

You see, men, we are not the only people who have suffered. This world is like a great stage with many different stories taking place upon it.

Yes, we are all like actors. And the life of every man has seven different ages.



As You Like It

Just as Jacques finished, Orlando returned with Adam.

Welcome! Set down your faithful old friend and let us all begin to eat.

I thank you most for him.

It's just as well. I am almost too tired to thank you for myself.



Later, as they ate, Orlando spoke with the duke. When they were finished, the duke turned to him.

And, you, old man, are as welcome as your master! Give me your hand in friendship.



And now, young man, if you are truly Sir Rowland's son, you are indeed most welcome. I have always liked your father!



POCKET CLASSICS



Meanwhile, back at Duke Frederick's court, Oliver had arrived at the duke's order.

You say you haven't seen your brother since the day of the wrestling match?



Then find him! Bring Orlando to me, dead or alive, or I will take everything you own away from you.

I will, sir. I never loved my brother!

Then you're worse than I thought, but you'd better find him for me! He may know where my daughter is!

As You Like It

Meanwhile, Orlando and Adam continued to live with the old duke and his men in the forest. During this time Orlando thought only of Rosalind.

O Rosalind! I shall hang a poem about my love for you from every tree in the forest!

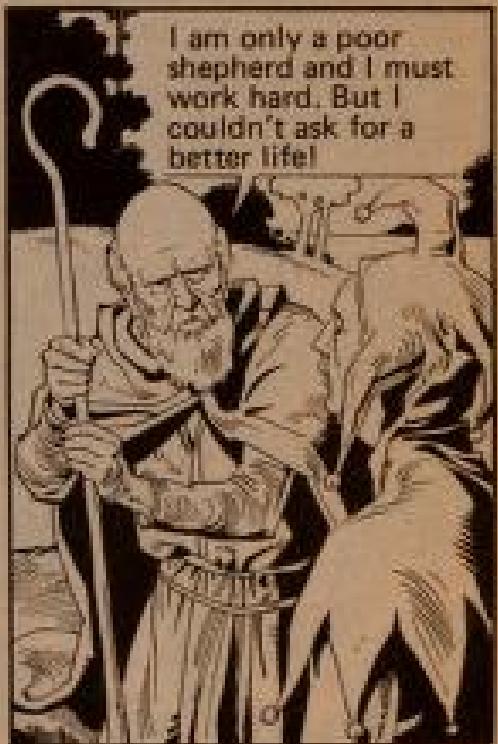
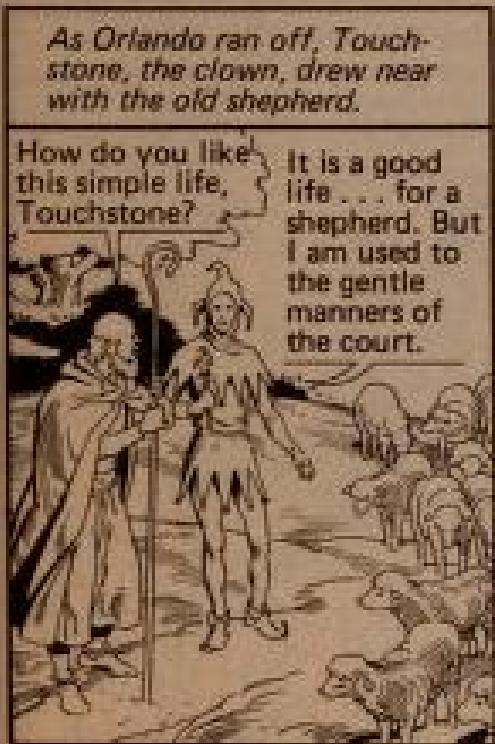


As Orlando ran off, Touchstone, the clown, drew near with the old shepherd.

How do you like this simple life, Touchstone?

It is a good life . . . for a shepherd. But I am used to the gentle manners of the court.

I am only a poor shepherd and I must work hard. But I couldn't ask for a better life!



POCKET CLASSICS



Silly poems
are made up
by silly
people!

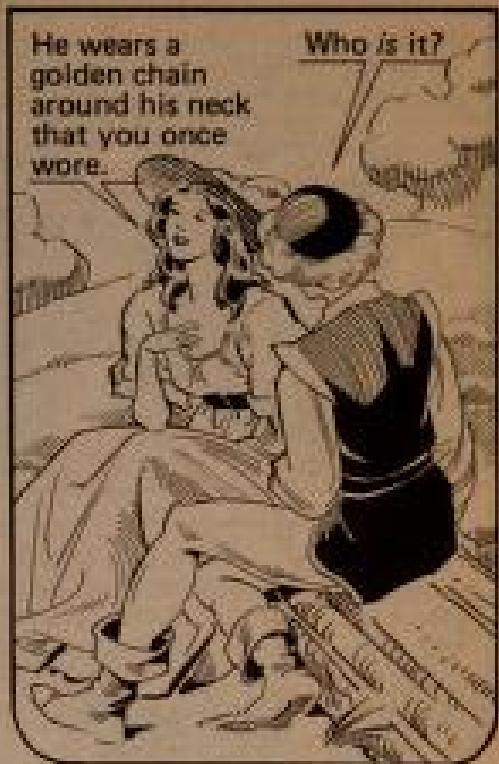
Oh, be quiet,
clown—I found
this poem hang-
ing from a tree.
My sister seems
to have found
one too!

All the trees
are filled with
love poems to
Rosalind!

Come, sheep-
herd, let's leave.
I don't like the
poetry that is
growing on
these trees!



As You Like It



POCKET CLASSICS

Does he know that I
am in the forest? And
dressed like a man?

Quiet! Here he
comes!



And then
Orlando and
Jaques
walked al-
most to the
spot where
the girls
were stand-
ing, hidden
by a tree.

I wish you would
stop putting those
love songs all over
this beautiful forest!

You should stop
reading them.
They are not
meant for you!



Is Rosalind the
name of your
true love?

Yes; now leave
me and let me
stay and think
of her!



As You Like It

As Jaques left, Rosalind, still dressed as Ganymede, stepped out from behind a tree.

You there. What time is it?

There's no clock in the forest!



Well, there is someone here who is keeping time like a clock. Every minute he hangs up a new poem to his lady.



I live here with this shepherdess, my sister. If I could find the man who is hanging these poems all over our forest, I would give him some advice.



POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It



POCKET CLASSICS

And so the time passed while Rosalind, dressed as Ganymede, pretended to cure Orlando of his love. Then one day Orlando was late.



But why did
he promise he
would come
this morning—
and then not
come?

It may be that
he is not a true
lover. Did you
know that he
lives here with
your father
and his men?



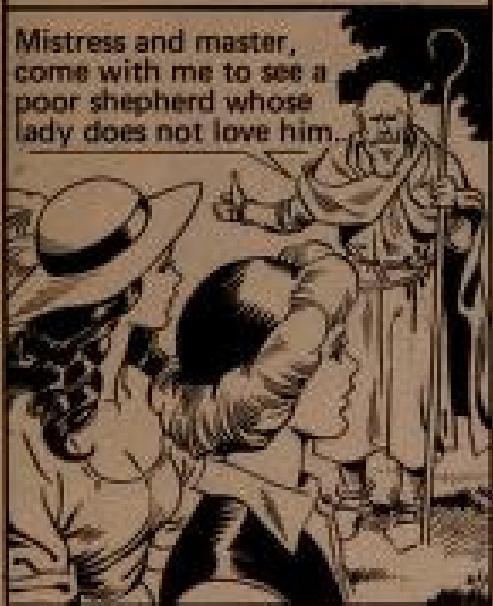
Yes, I met my father yes-
terday. He didn't know me,
and he asked who my par-
ents were. I answered that
my father was as good a
man as he. But why talk of
fathers? Where is Orlando?



As You Like It

But Rosalind was not the only unhappy lover. At that moment Corin, the old shepherd, came up to them with a sad story.

Mistress and master, come with me to see a poor shepherd whose lady does not love him...



Sweet Phoebe, please do not push me away. I would die for your love.

I don't want to hurt you, Silvius. I just don't want to be near you.



Rosalind felt sorry for the shepherd and stepped forward.

You foolish shepherd, why do you follow her around like that? She isn't that pretty. And you, shepherdess, you should be giving thanks for a good man's love.



POCKET CLASSICS

But Phebe was more interested in "Ganymede" than by his words.

Sweet youth,
I would rather
hear you scold
me than hear
this shepherd's
words of love!

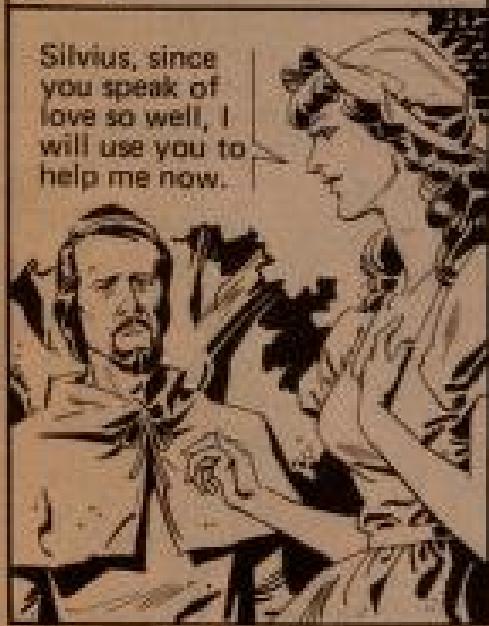


Dear lady, don't start fall-
ing in love with me. I don't
like you at all! Come, sister



*So Ganymede and Aliena left,
But Phebe did not intend to
give up.*

Silvius, since
you speak of
love so well, I
will use you to
help me now.

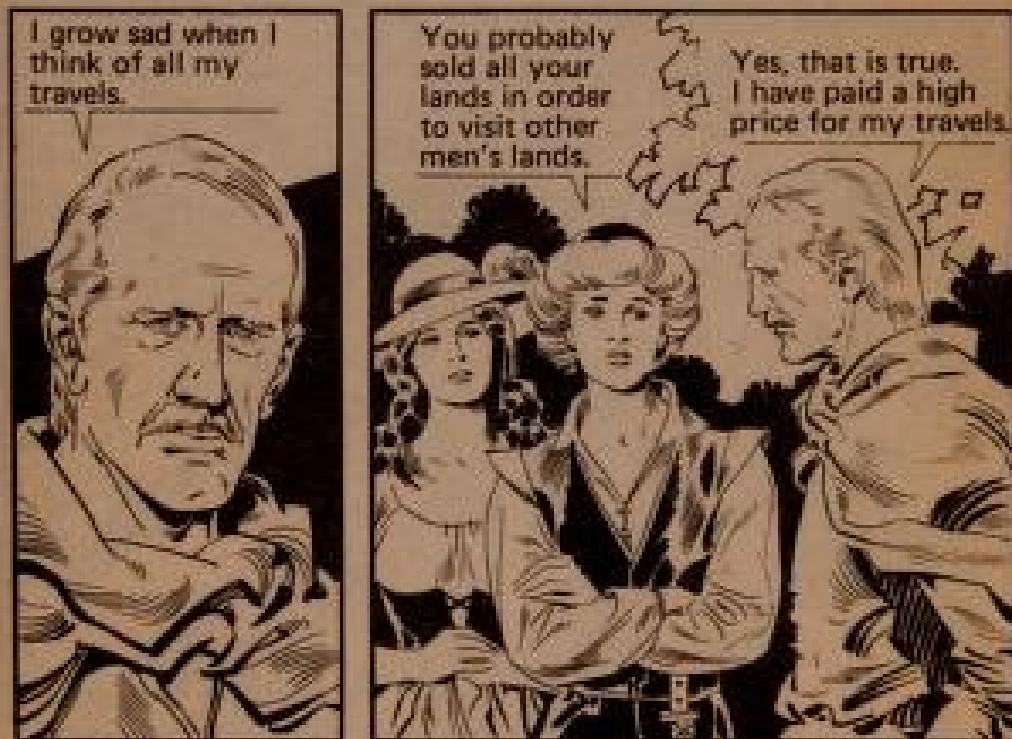


*Then Phebe wrote a letter of
love to Ganymede.*

Take this to that
rude young man.
I'm telling him
what bad manners
he has!



As You Like It



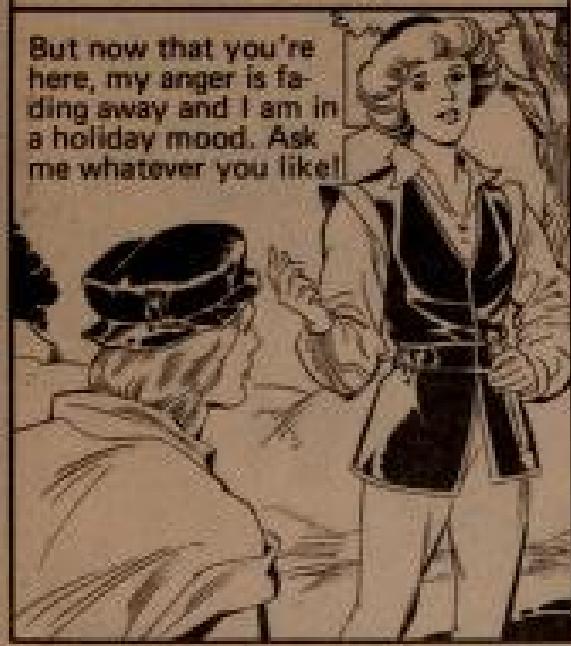
POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It

But Rosalind's love for Orlando would not allow her to stay angry.

But now that you're here, my anger is fading away and I am in a holiday mood. Ask me whatever you like!



Then love me, Rosalind.

I will, every day.



And will you marry me?

Yes, I will.



Orlando wanted to play their game through to the end.

Aliena, marry us.

I don't know the words.

You begin with, "Will you, Orlando, take Rosalind for your wife?"



POCKET CLASSICS



But the pretend marriage was not enough for Rosalind. She wanted to keep Orlando near her forever.

Now I must go and dine with the duke. I shall return by two o'clock.



If you come one minute late, I will say you are not worthy of the lady you call Rosalind!



As You Like It

When Orlando had left, Celia spoke roughly to Rosalind.

You have let this game go too far!

Oh, no, cousin!
If you only knew
how much I
love him!



I cannot bear to be
out of his sight! I'll
go and find a tree to
sit under until he re-
turns.



*But two hours
passed and Or-
lando did not
return.*

It is after two
o'clock! Where
could he be?

Maybe he went
to take a nap
after dinner.



POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It

When Silvius had gone, more time passed, and still Orlando did not appear. But his brother Oliver came by. Rosalind and Celia, of course, did not know who he was.

Good morning. I seek a young man and his sister who live near here.

You have found them.



Orlando asked me to bring this bloody handkerchief to the boy he calls Rosalind.



I must tell you about myself and why I have brought this to you!

"On his way here, Orlando saw a ragged man sleeping under a tree. A snake lay coiled close to his neck, ready to strike."



POCKET CLASSICS



"Though he saw that this man was his evil brother, Orlando drove away the snake to save his brother's life!"



"Just then a lioness attacked, and Orlando drove her off with his bare hands. His arm was clawed and he lost some blood, but he will soon be all right again."

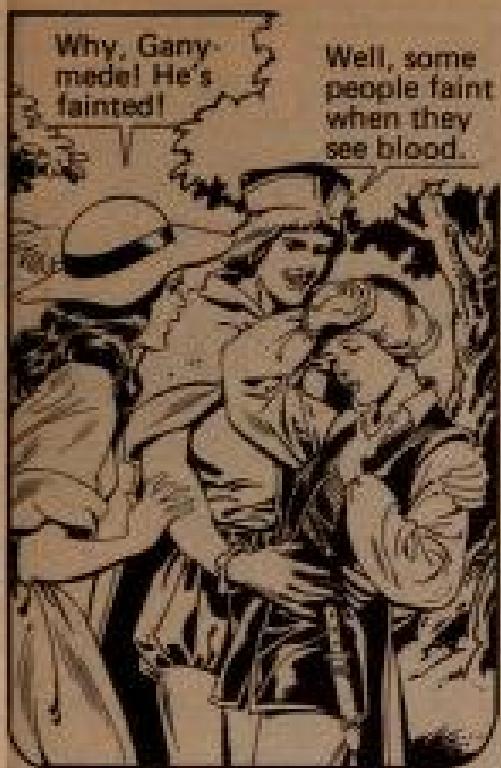


"Orlando took me, his evil brother, to the duke, who welcomed me and gave me fresh clothing. Then Orlando sent me to tell you the story. He wanted you to forgive him for being late."

Yes, I am Orlando's older brother Oliver who once mistreated him. But now I am a changed man.



As You Like It



POCKET CLASSICS

Not long afterward, Oliver shared a secret with his brother.

Can it be that
you are so
much in love
already?

It's true. I
love Aliena.



I am going to give you
our father's house and
lands. I will marry Aliena
and live here as a shepherd.



*Just then Rosalind
came by, still dressed
as Ganymede.*

Hello, my friends.
I hear you were
hurt by a lion,
Orlando.

My greater
hurt was
done by
a lady.



As You Like It

Oh, yes, your Rosalind. And did your brother tell you of my pretended faint?

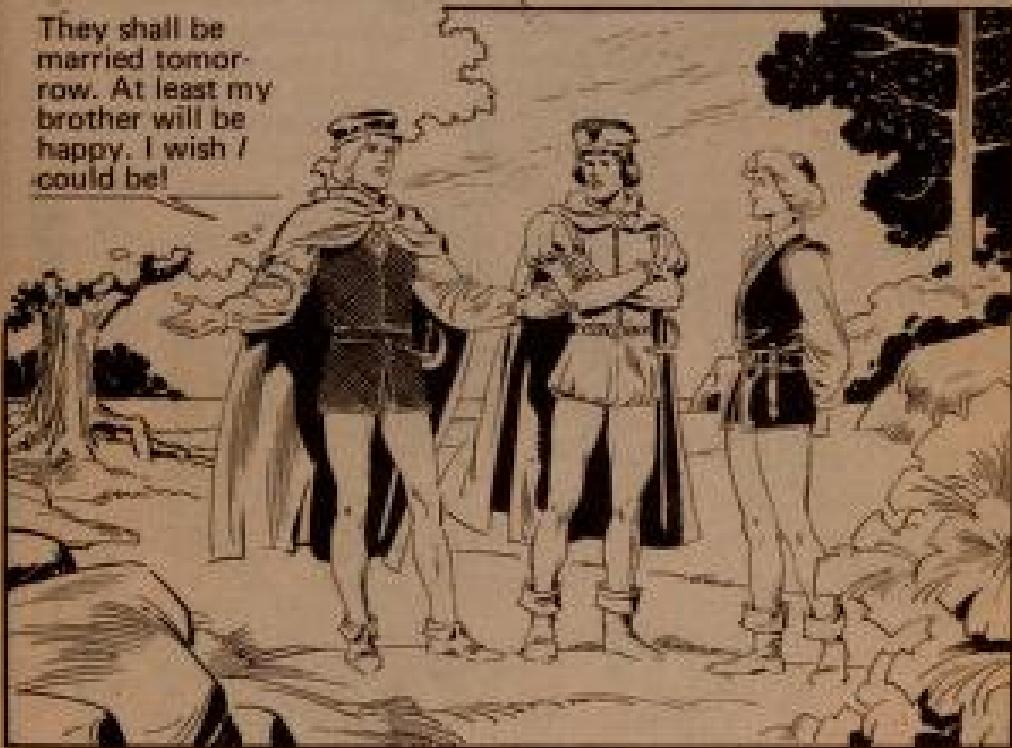
He told me even better things than that. Oliver loves Aliena.



I know. Your brother and my sister no sooner met but they fell in love.



They shall be married tomorrow. At least my brother will be happy. I wish I could be!



POCKET CLASSICS

Then tomorrow I cannot play Rosalind for you?

No, I can't pretend any longer.



Hearing this, Rosalind suddenly got another idea.

Look, when I was very young, I worked with a good magician and I know his secrets. Since you are so in love with Rosalind, you will marry her at the same time your brother marries Aliena!



Do you mean it?
That's wonderful!

Just then Silvius and Phoebe arrived.

Young man, you were wrong to show Silvius the love letter that I wrote to you!

I care not what you think. You have your faithful shepherd. You should love him, not me!



As You Like It

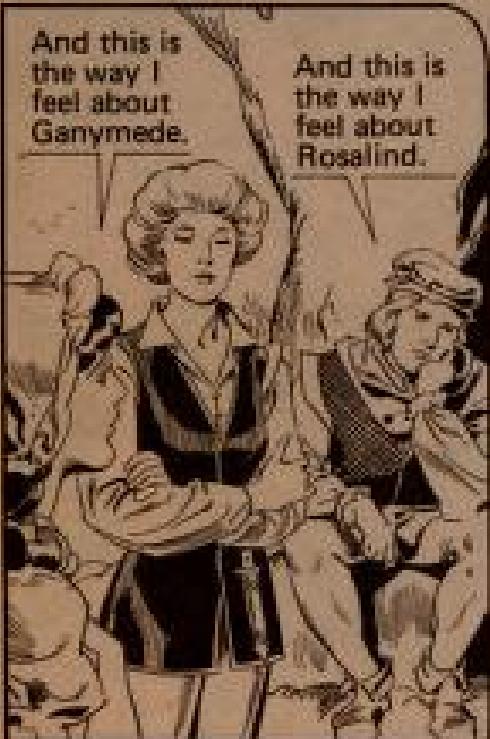




As You Like It



It is to be made up of
dreams and of wishes,
And this is the way I
feel about Phebe.



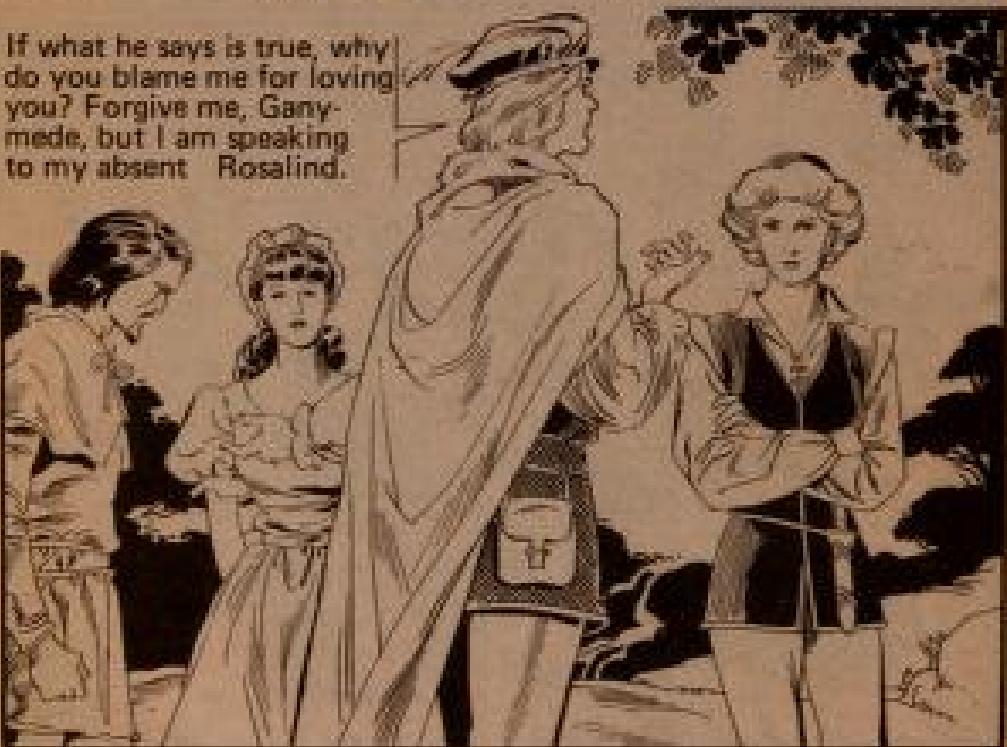
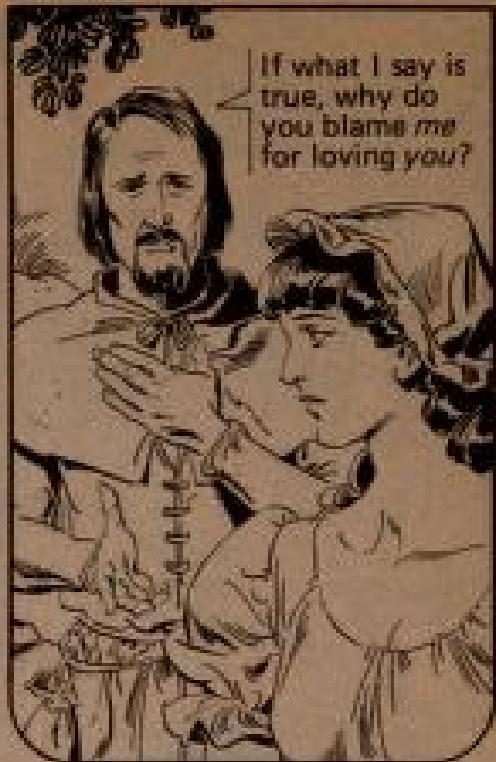
And this is
the way I
feel about
Ganymede.

And this is
the way I
feel about
Rosalind.



And I don't feel that way
about any woman!

POCKET CLASSICS



As You Like It



POCKET CLASSICS

And if what you love is what makes you happy, I will make you happy. You will be married tomorrow.



And if you, Silvius, and you, Orlando, are both as much in love as you say, you will not fail to meet me here tomorrow.



If I am alive I will not fail to be here!

Nor II

Nor II



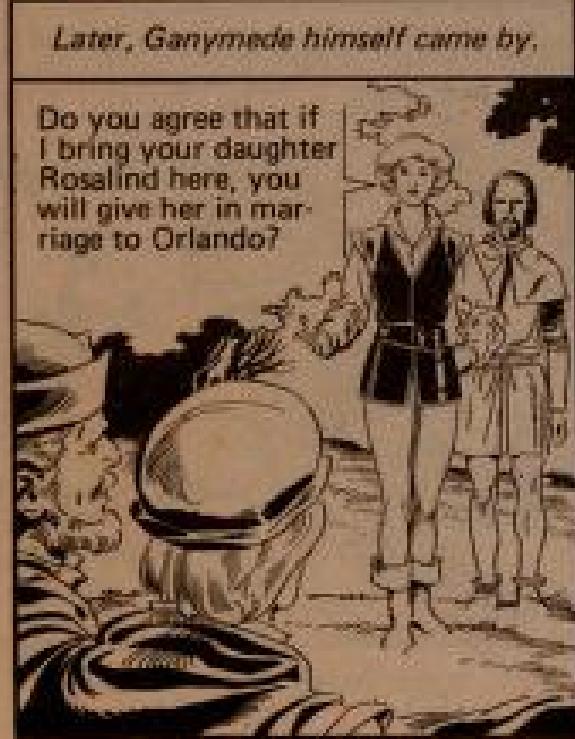
As You Like It



Overjoyed, Orlando went straight to the duke and told him what Ganymede had said.

Do you believe that he can do all that he promised?

Sometimes I do and sometimes I don't.



Later, Ganymede himself came by.

Do you agree that if I bring your daughter Rosalind here, you will give her in marriage to Orlando?

Indeed I will, though I wish I had my lands to give with her!



POCKET CLASSICS



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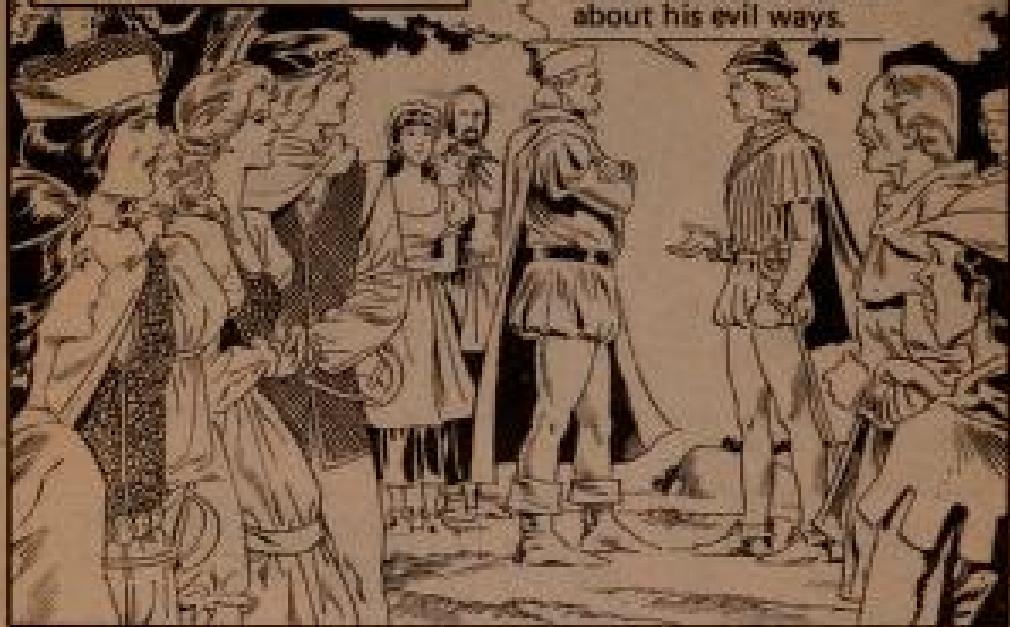
And so, just as Ganymede had promised, all the couples were married in the Forest of Arden.



POCKET CLASSICS

And then, into this happy group more good news was brought by young Jaques, the brother of Oliver and Orlando. He spoke to the duke.

Sir, some time ago Duke Frederick started out for the Forest of Arden with armed men. He wanted to capture or kill you. But on the way he met a holy man who spoke to him about his evil ways.



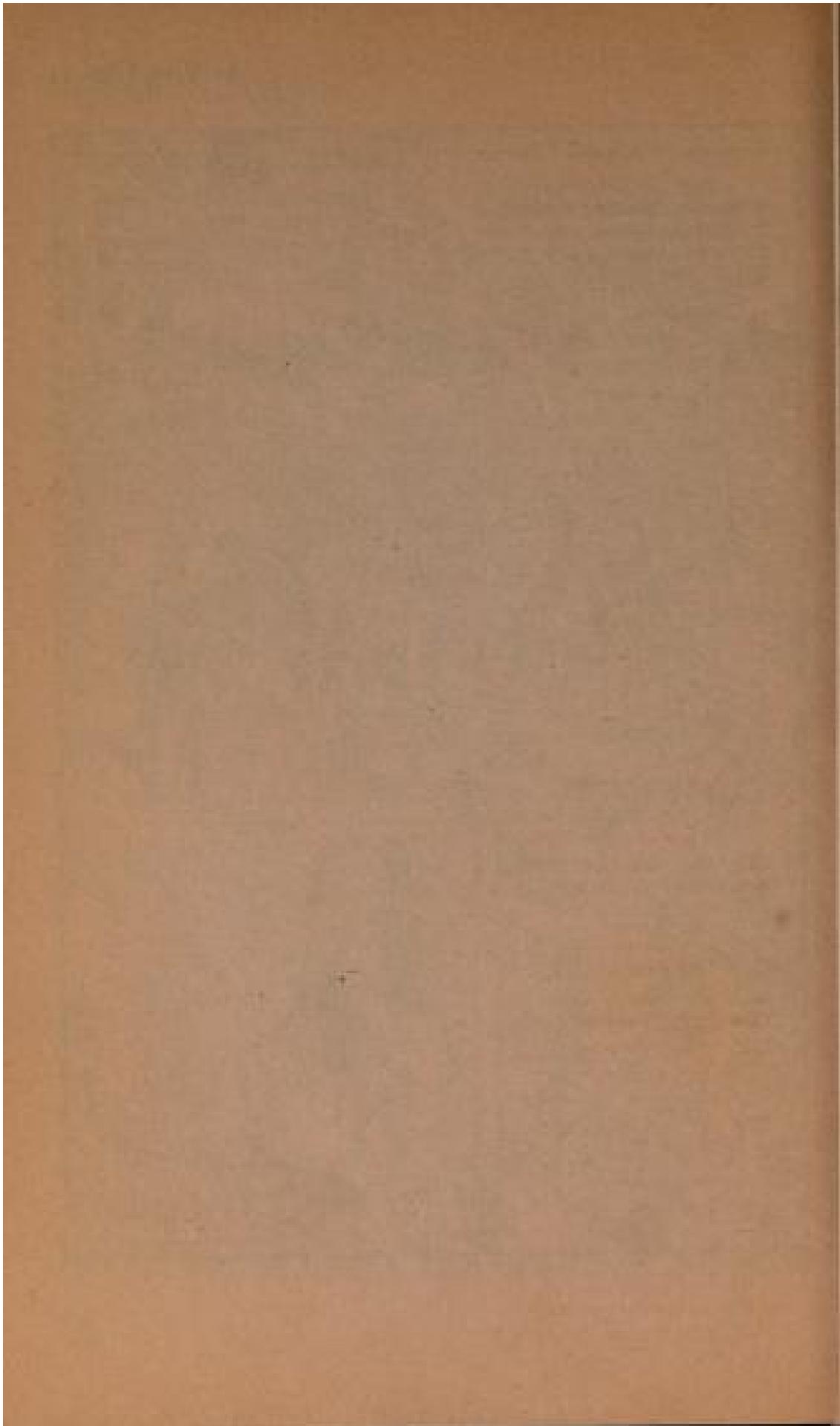
Now Duke Frederick wants to change his life. He has decided to leave this world for a life of prayer, and he has restored to you all your lands.



Welcome! You bring good news and joy to the wedding of your brothers!







COMPLETE LIST OF POCKET CLASSICS AVAILABLE

CLASSICS

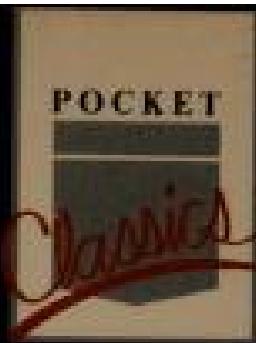
- C 1 Black Beauty
- C 2 The Call of the Wild
- C 3 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- C 4 Dracula
- C 5 Frankenstein
- C 6 Huckleberry Finn
- C 7 Moby Dick
- C 8 The Red Badge of Courage
- C 9 The Time Machine
- C10 Tom Sawyer
- C11 Treasure Island
- C12 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
- C13 The Great Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
- C14 Gulliver's Travels
- C15 The Hunchback of Notre Dame
- C16 The Invisible Man
- C17 Journey to the Center of the Earth
- C18 Kidnapped
- C19 The Mysterious Island
- C20 The Scarlet Letter
- C21 The Story of My Life
- C22 A Tale of Two Cities
- C23 The Three Musketeers
- C24 The War of the Worlds
- C25 Around the World in Eighty Days
- C26 Captains Courageous
- C27 A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
- C28 The Hound of the Baskervilles
- C29 The House of the Seven Gables
- C30 Jane Eyre
- C31 The Last of the Mohicans
- C32 The Best of O. Henry
- C33 The Best of Poe
- C34 Two Years Before the Mast
- C35 White Fang
- C36 Wuthering Heights
- C37 Ben Hur
- C38 A Christmas Carol
- C39 The Food of the Gods
- C40 Ivanhoe
- C41 The Man in the Iron Mask
- C42 The Prince and the Pauper
- C43 The Prisoner of Zenda
- C44 The Return of the Native
- C45 Robinson Crusoe
- C46 The Scarlet Pimpernel

COMPLETE LIST OF POCKET CLASSICS AVAILABLE (cont'd)

- C47 The Sea Wolf
- C48 The Swiss Family Robinson
- C49 Billy Budd
- C50 Crime and Punishment
- C51 Don Quixote
- C52 Great Expectations
- C53 Heidi
- C54 The Illiad
- C55 Lord Jim
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